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U.S. National Stage Application of PCT/EP03/08022

Atty Docket No. PNL 21440

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method Method for protecting against manipulation of a motor vehicle controller, the motor vehicle controller (1) comprising at least one microcomputer (μC) and at least one memory module (2, 3), at least one of the at least one memory module modules (2, 3) constituting a reversible read-only memory (3), ~~characterized~~ said method comprising:

encrypting data by an encryption process;

storing said encrypted data in that the reversible read-only memory (3) stores data which have been encrypted by an encryption process;

wherein said encrypting step comprises using a and the key used in the encryption process, and said key comprises at least one part of at least one original identifier (ID) of at least one module, said module selected from the group consisting of the at least one memory module and the at least one microcomputer modules (μC , 2, 3) of the control device, which identifier is specific to the module.

2. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the identifier constitutes the identifier of the microcomputer (μC).

3. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1 to 2, wherein the identifier constitutes the identifier of ~~an additional~~ the at least one memory module (3).

4. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 3, wherein the key is stored in the RAM of the microcomputer.

5. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 4, further comprising reading out at least part of the at least one memory module of the control device to generate a key for encryption of data on a reversible read-only memory (3) from a read-protected OTP area (11) of the microcomputer at least part of the identifier (ID) of at least one of the modules (μC , 2, 3) of the control device (1) is read out.

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6. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 5, wherein further comprising each time the control device (1) is started up, re-generating a key for decryption of the data which have been stored encrypted in the reversible read-only memory, each time the control device is started up (3) is re-generated.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (New) A method for protecting against tampering with a device, said device comprising plurality of components, each component associated with an identifier, said method comprising:

reading an identifier associated with one of said plurality of components;
generating a decryption key from said at least one identifier;
decrypting data stored in a memory unit with said key; and
comparing said decrypted data with stored data.

9. (New) The method of claim 8, further comprising:
generating a reference key from a reference identifier associated with a component;
encrypting said reference identifier with said reference key, and
storing said encrypted reference identifier as said stored data.

10. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein said storing step comprises inputting said stored data into an EEPROM.

11. (New) The method of claim 9, further comprising permitting access or activation of said component if said decrypted data is identical to said encrypted reference identifier.